

Utah and the Bay Area over these next few years.

Mr. Speaker and members, one of the highest compliments that we can pay to anyone leaving public life is to say that they served with honor. Jim Hardy did so. He was honest and fair in his dealings with the public, patient with his councils and dutiful towards their directions, mindful of his employees and their needs and conscious of setting the highest personal standard of propriety. There are no statues erected or brilliant orchestral compositions written to commemorate the ending of a distinguished career in local government. However, there are fond memories. Jim leaves thousands of these as he exits public service. These fond memories are themselves a type of ode to a life well led, and as enduring as any statue that we might erect. Now is the time to say thank you to Jim Hardy, a man called father, grandfather, leader and friend.

HONORING BARBARA HARRIS

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Barbara Ann Poland Harris of West Palm Beach, Florida, who turned 84 years old on June 29th, 2015.

Barbara, who was born in Steubenville, Ohio, is a lifelong educator, member of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority, and loving mother of two sons. Barbara moved to Florida in 1954 to teach and coach basketball at St. Patrick's Catholic School in Miami Beach. She went on to teach at Watkin B. Duncan Middle School in 1965, where she taught until her retirement in 1995. While teaching at the middle school, Barbara was named teacher of the month, had a yearbook dedication in her name, and was a tennis coach and avid sports supporter. After her retirement Barbara traveled extensively across Europe and Asia.

I am proud to represent Barbara in Florida's 22nd District. I join with her friends and family in celebrating her birthday. I wish her good health and continued success in the coming years.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSAGE OF THE "OLDER AMERICANS ACT" OF 1965

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Older Americans Act of 1965.

Passed by the historic 89th Congress, the "Older Americans Act" was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on July 14, 1965 in response to the growing national consensus that the level of community social services available for older Americans was simply inadequate.

The original legislation established the authority for grants to states for community planning and other social services.

These services included funding for vital research and development of projects, and personnel training to assist our aging citizens.

This legislation authorized the creation of a wide array of programs through a national network of 56 state agencies that specialize in aging.

The legislation also led to the creation of 629 area agencies on aging, nearly 20,000 service providers, 244 Tribal organizations, and 2 Native Hawaiian organizations representing 400 Tribes throughout our country.

The Older Americans Act also assisted in the creation of community service employment for low-income elder Americans.

These community services included implementation of job training for our aging community; along with focusing on the protection of the rights of vulnerable Americans.

Every year, an estimated 2.1 million older Americans are victims of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

In 2013 alone, over 4.2 million elder Americans were below the poverty level.

Today, an estimated 65.7 million Americans, or nearly 30 percent of the general population, provide care for an older adult, or someone living with illness or disability.

The Older Americans Act has led to the creation of vital programs such as the National Meals on Wheels of America, which provide meals to our ever growing elderly community.

According to the United States Census Bureau, 9 percent of the residents of my congressional district, which is centered in Houston, Texas, are over the age of 65.

These older citizens in the city of Houston utilize services provided by the Harris County Area Agency on Aging Family Caregiver Support Network.

Without the passage of significant legislation such as the "Older Americans Act" of 1965, older American citizens throughout our country would never know of the positive impact that a professional caregiver can provide them.

Older women are more than likely to be living alone at the age of 75, and a caregiver will provide them the necessary assistance to live a healthy life in their own home.

The issues facing our seniors grow every day with the increasing pace of the world around us.

The services that the Older Americans Act generated have assisted countless elder Americans in the half century since the law was enacted.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the passage of the "Older Americans Act" of 1965 and to recognize its remarkable contributions to the quality of life enjoyed by older Americans and in making our country a better and sweeter place to live.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,151,981,262,337.43. We've added \$7,525,104,213,424.35 to our debt in 6

years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, it recently has come to my attention that the last vote I intended to cast during the vote series on May 12, 2015, was not recorded. I would have recorded my vote as Yes on H.R. 2146, the Defending Public Safety Employees Retirement Act.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MORRIE SANCHEZ

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Morrie Sanchez, a longtime Angeleno, onetime union organizer, avid dancer, and family friend. Morrie passed away quietly on June 16, 2015, in Monrovia, California, at the age of 97.

Born on June 25, 1917, in Jerome, Arizona, to Victoria Balderamos and Angel Gonzalez, Morrie was from an old California family whose roots in the state predated the Mexican Revolution and its becoming part of the United States. She had two sisters, Vera and Margarita.

Her grandfather, Zeferino Balderamos, was born in San Luis Obispo in the early 1800s, and her grandmother, Modesta Rodriguez, was from Sonora, Mexico.

When Morrie moved to Los Angeles, California, she lived and raised her three eldest daughters—Dolores, Rose Marie, and Carol—in the city's downtown core, in an area known as Bunker Hill. She later moved to Pico-Union, where she raised her youngest daughter, Sylvia.

Morrie was a stalwart of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU), serving as a union organizer, as a shop steward, and multiple terms as local chapter president between 1950 and the late 1980s.

A longtime community activist, Morrie worked diligently in many political campaigns. These included the first election of my father, former Congressman Edward R. Roybal, to his earlier position as the first Latino in the 20th century to be elected to the Los Angeles City Council.

For many years, she volunteered with the City of Hope and White Memorial Hospital, and with many other local nonprofit groups.

Morrie did not let retirement slow her down a bit. Instead, she used her "free time" to support senior citizen causes, and could often be seen dancing the afternoon away at one of the many local senior centers, including the International Institute in Boyle Heights, the Highland Park Senior Center, and Salazar Park in East Los Angeles.